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Office of Legislative Counsel

8 May 1978

Mr. Robert E. Carlstrom  
Legislative Reference Division  
Office of Management and Budget  
Washington, D.C. 20503

Dear Bob:

On 12 April 1978 OMB requested oral comments on the Office of Telecommunication Policy's (OTP) proposed report on H.R. 7341, the "Telecommunications Privacy Act," which were provided you by [redacted] of our Office of General Counsel. In a subsequent telephone conversation with this office, you indicated that you would like to have a short letter expressing our reservations with regard to the OTP proposed report.

In general, OTP's comments and H.R. 7341 itself are at odds with the Administration's position, as we understand it, with regard to H.R. 7308 and S. 1566--the "Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978." For example, among other things, H.R. 7341: (1) would extend the coverage of the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 overseas; (2) would make no provision for the CIA to conduct testing, training and audio countermeasures; and (3) would not provide authority to conduct foreign intelligence surveillance. Accordingly, we do not agree with OTP's endorsement of enactment, notwithstanding the reservations stated by OTP in its report.

We appreciate your keeping us advised of this matter; please let us know if we can be of any further assistance in this regard.

Sincerely,

[redacted]

Assistant Legislative Counsel

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